



NEWS FROM THE 1st DISTRICT

Dear Friends,

Hours ago, I urged New Hampshire to deny the Trump Election Commission's request for personal voter data. In a letter to Governor Chris Sununu and to Secretary of State William Gardner, who is a member of the Commission, I asked our state to join the ten others (and counting) that have already denied this frivolous and intrusive request.

Today's letter capped off a very busy week, so I apologize in advance for the length of this newsletter.

On Wednesday, I participated in the House Armed Services Committee's markup of the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which clocked in at 14 hours! I was proud to secure a number of important provisions in this year's bill.

Standing up for our right to privacy: Part 1

Here's the text of the letter I sent to Governor Sununu and Secretary of State Gardner:

"I write to urge you to deny the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity's request for the personal information of every registered New Hampshire voter. In a letter addressed to you, the Commission requested the name, last four Social Security digits, birthdate, political affiliation, address, military status, and voting history of nearly one million Granite Staters. Secretary Gardner, as a member of the Commission, it is imperative that you both deny this request and inform your fellow members that this misguided effort is unacceptable and deeply troubling.

"As you know, we Granite Staters greatly value our privacy rights. We are the 'Live Free or Die' state, and this request is undoubtedly an assault on our freedom. This request violates the privacy of our state's residents and represents an unprecedented intrusion by the federal government into our state's electoral data. California, Connecticut, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New York, Oklahoma, and Virginia have already refused this request. The New Hampshire Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union has indicated that full compliance with this request would violate our state's laws governing the public disclosure of voter information.

"In closing, I urge you to shield New Hampshire voters from this historic federal intrusion into law-abiding Americans' right to privacy whose only 'offense' was exercising their Constitutional

right to vote. This could further dampen participation in our elections. Therefore, it is necessary for you both to publicly reassure our state's voters that you will not comply with the Trump Commission's demand."

Standing up for our right to privacy: Part 2

Yesterday, I offered an amendment to stop employers from using phones to track employees' location during non-work hours at a House Education and Workforce Committee markup. *The Atlantic* summed up this issue earlier this year in an article titled [Why Bosses Can Track Their Employees 24/7](#). Unfortunately, the majority party voted against my amendment.



Watch the video [HERE](#).

I'm disappointed to report that the so-called 'Employee Privacy and Protection Act' was one of three anti-worker bills considered during the markup that would further tilt the playing field against workers seeking to bargain for better wages and working conditions.

Securing provisions in the annual defense bill

Legislative victories I secured in this year's NDAA include:

- A long-sought [provision](#) to ensure fairness among deployed troops by **extending active-duty TRICARE (health) benefits to mobilized National Guard and Reserve Component servicemembers**.
- The text of my [bill](#) to create a **comprehensive anticorruption plan** to prevent foreign nations that host American military operations from swindling American taxpayers.
- My language directing the Government Accountability Office to [report](#) **on the harm of outsourcing manufacturing jobs** to countries like China.
- My anti-espionage [provision](#) that would create a program aimed at **preventing recruitment of U.S. study-abroad students by foreign agents in hostile countries**.

- The text of [a bill](#) I co-introduced to **strengthen deterrence against Russia** and to develop a comprehensive strategy against Vladimir Putin's effort to corrode and undermine democracies worldwide.
- An [amendment](#) I cosponsored to **study the impact of climate change on U.S. military readiness**, including on shipyards like the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.
- Language to **prevent the Navy from diverting funding from or delaying public shipyards' modernization and workforce expansion efforts**, which are necessary to meet future Navy requirements.
- My provision to **ensure that DoD notifies small businesses that free contracting assistance is available to them** through the Procurement Technical Assistance Program.

This week's House votes

This week, the House considered a number of bills. Here's how I voted on several of them:

- **H.R.3004, or 'Kate's Law'**: I voted "no" on this bill, which was opposed by dozens of religious groups, including the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic Charities USA, the Church World Service, the United Methodist Church, the Episcopal Refugee and Immigrant Center Alliance, the New Hampshire Conference United Church of Christ Immigration Working Group, the American Friends Service Committee, T'ruah: the Rabbinic Call for Human Rights, and the Unitarian Universalist Association. Let me be clear: the killing of Kate Steinle was a horrible and inexcusable crime, and my heart goes out to her family and loved ones. This should never have happened. We must investigate the breakdown in policy that led to Kate's tragic death. This bill would, however, have serious negative consequences by increasing the likelihood that innocent asylum seekers, trafficking victims, and other non-criminal immigrants will be imprisoned. These victims would be in trouble if they presented themselves at ports of entry to seek help.
- **H.R.3003, the Sanctuary City De-funding Act**: I voted "no" on this bill, which the US Conference of Mayors strongly opposed and the Fraternal Order of Police said would unjustly 'penalize law enforcement and the citizens they serve because Congress disagrees with their enforcement priorities with respect to our immigration laws.' We must stand up for proper funding for law enforcement. It is unjust to jeopardize our local police agencies, which are already underfunded and understaffed. The policies this bill seeks to end are designed to improve trust in law enforcement and help our police officers do their jobs effectively. We should not take away local communities' and law enforcement agencies' ability to decide how to do their jobs.
- **H.Res.397, "Solemnly reaffirming the commitment of the United States to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's principle of collective defense"**: I voted "yes" on this bipartisan bill, which makes it clear to the world that the U.S. Congress supports Article 5, the collective defense provision of the NATO treaty, which states that an attack on one NATO ally is considered an attack on all NATO allies.

- **H.Res.351, “Condemning the violence and persecution in Chechnya”:** I voted “yes” on this bipartisan bill, which condemns the horrific treatment of the LGTBQ individuals, mainly gay men, who have been persecuted, tortured, and killed in the Russian territory of Chechnya. Media reports indicate that more than 100 victims were held and tortured at a detention center. The resolution condemns the violence and calls on Chechen officials to immediately stop the detention and torture of individuals on the basis of sexual orientation. The resolution calls on the Russian Government to protect human rights and investigate the crimes in Chechnya. It also calls on the US Government to continue condemnation of the violence, demand the release of individuals wrongly held, and identify individuals who should be sanctioned under the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act.

Closing thoughts

On Tuesday, I was encouraged to see Senate Republicans delay their health care repeal vote because people across the U.S. are speaking up. Keep telling your stories! You can share yours with me by emailing NHstories@mail.house.gov.

And as always, I'm looking forward to celebrating Independence Day in the Granite State. On Independence Day, we honor the men and women who founded this country on an audacious dream of 'Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness' for all. Our great Republic has shined as a democratic beacon for the world ever since. As we celebrate with parades, barbecues, and fireworks, let's also rededicate ourselves to dreaming big and carrying forward the greatest experiment in history.

Best wishes,

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